EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
App. No. 10/677,782
ART UNIT 3676

REMARKS

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action mailed on January 4, 2006. Claims 1-16 and 18-37 were pending in the present application. The Office Action rejected claims 1-9, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18-26, 29, 31 and 35. Claims 30, 32-34, 36 and 37 are allowed, while claims 10, 11, 14, 27, and 28 are objected as being dependent upon a rejected base claim.

In response to the Office Action of January 4, 2006, applicants present this amendment where limitations of the allowable claim 11 are included into the independent claims 1 and 15, thus making claims 1 and 15 and claims dependent therefrom allowable. Similarly, limitations of the allowable claim 27 are included into the independent claim 19, therefore, making claim 19 and its dependent claims allowable.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in a condition for allowance and an early action so indicating is respectfully requested. This response is timely filed within two month of the mailing of the Office Action (March 4, 2006 being Saturday), however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 13-2855.

Respectfully submitted,

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March 6, 2006 By: _____

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